

03500.014744



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)	
	:	Examiner: Q. Grainger
SHINYA YAMAMOTO, et al.	)	
	:	Group Art Unit: 2852
Application No.: 09/650,752	)	
	:	Notice of Allowance: April 18, 2003
Filed: August 29, 2000	)	Confirmation No. 2467
	:	
For: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS	)	July 3, 2003
COMPRISING MEANS FOR DETECTING	:	
AN AMOUNT OF DEVELOPER CONTAINED	)	
IN A DEVELOPER CONTAINER, A	:	
MEMORY FOR STORING THE AMOUNT	)	
DETECTED BY THE DETECTING MEANS,	:	
AND CONTROL MEANS FOR UPDATING	)	
THE INFORMATION STORED IN THE	:	
MEMORY	)	

Commissioner for Patents  
Mail Stop Issue Fee  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies the listed documents are also enclosed. These document were recently cited in the attached European Search Report issued in a foreign counterpart application on May 19, 2003.

07/08/2003 EFLORES 00000019 09650752

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U.S. Patent No. 5,923,917 was cited in the October 4, 2001 Office Action, and therefore it is not being submitted herewith, and U.S. Patent Nos. 4,647,185 and 5,708,912 and the English Abstract of Japanese Laid-Open Patent No. 11-015252 are not being furnished herein, because these references were previously cited in the March 29, 2002 Information Disclosure Statement.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that an initialed copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

#### STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

Each item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing date of this Statement.

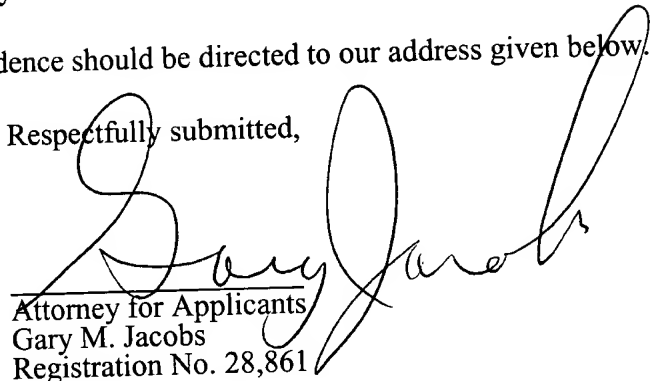
#### CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants enclose a check for the required fee of \$180.00 to cover the Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(d).

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicants  
Gary M. Jacobs  
Registration No. 28,861

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, New York 10112-3801  
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200  
GMJ/smj



FORM PTO 1449 (modified)		ATTY DOCKET NO. <b>03500.014744</b>		APPLICATION NO. <b>09/650,752</b>			
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		APPLICANT <b>SHINYA YAMAMOTO, ET AL.</b>					
		FILING DATE <b>August 29, 2000</b>		GROUP <b>2852</b>			
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)							
Date: July 2, 2003							
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		<b>5,307,129</b>	<b>4/26/94</b>	<b>MIURA, ET AL.</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>260</b>	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
		<b>Patent Abstracts of Japan, Vol. 1998, No. 14, December 31, 1998 (JP 10-240085)</b>					
		<b>Patent Abstracts of Japan, Vol. 17, No. 512, September 14, 1993 (JP 5-134512)</b>					
		<b>Patent Abstracts of Japan, Vol. 1997, No. 07, July 31, 1997 (JP 9-062078)</b>					
		<b>Patent Abstracts of Japan, Vol. 15, No. 214, May 31, 1991 (JP 3-059681) ✓</b>					
		<b>Patent Abstracts of Japan, Vol. 17, No. 29, January 20, 1993 (JP 4-251879)</b>					
EXAMINER			DATE CONSIDERED				

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Sheet 1 of 1

GMJ/smj